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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Confirmation No: 4767

V. ARCELLA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1723

Serial Number: 09/576,992

Examiner: A. FORTUNA

Filed: May 24, 2000

Attorney Dkt. No.: 108910-00006

For: MEMBRANES FOR (PER)FLUORINATED AMORPHOUS POLYMERS

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 9, 2003

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GROUP 1700

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request consideration of the below remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-23 are pending. Applicants wish to point out that the Advisory Action dated February 27, 2003 is unclear regarding the reasons, if any, claims 1, 17 and 23 remain rejected. Applicants respectfully request clarification in this regard as appropriate.

Nevertheless, Applicants point out that the present invention in preferred embodiments is concerned with porous membranes of (per)fluorinated amorphous polymers that have high porosity, that is, high permeability and no gas selectivity. Applicants note in particular that the membranes of preferred embodiments of the present invention have a narrow pore size distribution around the average pore size